I disagree with the filing of the NCVEC. When I took my exam, the VEC team played a tape, read my results, marked "Passed" on my form. How much of a burden can this be (especially since they were simultaneously testing others)? If electrical power stops entirely (as it can), a quickly rigged Morse Code unit can (and has been) used for emergency contact, even when no other units can be used. If I had not been required to learn code for my license, I might never have done so. How could I possibly help anyone calling for assistance using this mode?

I feel Morse Code is not only a useful part of Amateur Radio, but should also be REQUIRED, as it always has been.

We should continue code testing in order to ensure that all operators are able to respond to emergencies where Morse Code is used, even if many operators rarely use it. We as Amateur Operators MUST be capable of using any simple mode available, because we are not licensed only for recreational usage. Thank you for allowing me to voice my thoughts.

J. Mortensen

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